



January 8, 2008

Ms. Tracey Denning  
Information Services Group  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Room 3.2.C  
Washington, DC 20229

RE: "Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Arrival and Departure Record: (Forms I-94 and I-94W)" [Federal Register: November 9, 2007 (Volume 72, Number 217) Page 63622];  
FR Doc E7-21968

Dear Ms. Denning:

The Airports Council International – North America (ACI-NA) submits the following comments in response to U.S. Customs and Border Protection's (CBP) notice in the November 9, 2007 Federal Register, seeking OMB approval to include additional data elements (passenger phone numbers and e-mail addresses) on the I-94 and I-94W (Arrival and Departure Record) forms.

ACI-NA represents the local, regional, and state governing bodies that own and operate commercial service airports in the United States and Canada. ACI-NA member airports enplane more than 95 percent of the domestic and virtually all the international airline passenger and cargo traffic in North America.

The paper I-94 and I-94W forms have become obsolete. Rather than expanding the I-94/I-94W forms, CBP should seek to eliminate the burden on travelers of completing the paper forms. Expanding the number of data elements hardly qualifies as an "effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden" as suggested by in the CBP Notice. Passenger information is now collected electronically through the Advanced Passenger Information System (APIS), which is soon to be provided prior to aircraft departure, and Passenger Name Records (PNRs). Additionally, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is proposing to establish yet another program, Secure Flight, which will also collect passenger data. Furthermore, a new Electronic Travel Authorization application will soon be required of travelers arriving from Visa Waiver Program countries. These programs collect all the data required for screening against no-fly and terrorist watch lists. In addition, we believe that the APIS data will continue to provide the international travel data maintained by the Department of Commerce from the I-94/I-94W forms and used by the travel industry.

In the final rule on Electronic Transmission of Passenger and Crew Manifests for Vessels and Aircraft (Federal Register: April 7, 2005, page 17833) CBP noted that "With regard to the I-418 and I-94 forms, CBP intends to study whether, and if so to what extent, the transmission of APIS data can replace the submission of these paper forms. Preliminary analysis indicates that these documents can be significantly reduced, if not eliminated." At a minimum, CBP should share the results of that analysis and explain why additional data elements are being sought and why the elimination of the I-94/I-94W forms has yet to occur.

ACI-NA strongly opposes the addition of the proposed new data elements and urges CBP to eliminate the I-94/I-94W forms. CBP has provided no rationale or explained any unique, important benefits this additional information collection would provide. Instead of increasing the size and complexity of the I-94/I-94W forms, ACI-NA recommends that CBP and other DHS entities enhance coordination of their screening programs to increase security while increasing the facilitation of passenger travel and eliminating redundant, wasteful and confusing forms and processes for passengers and the aviation industry.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Diane I. Peterson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending from the end of the name.

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